

I have named this species after my friend Dr. Albert Günther, one of my colleagues in the Museum, who has prepared such admirable catalogues of the Snakes and Fishes in the Museum Collection. He first drew my attention to the specimen, and considers it as indicating a very distinct and interesting species. It is to be regretted that the head is so dried and covered with varnish that it is impossible to see the distribution of the colours with any certainty; for I have found that the distribution of the colours on the head and exposed parts of the body affords one of the best and most prominent characters for the distinction of the species of this family, and one, unlike the form of the bones, that is not at all, or but slightly, altered by the age of the specimens.

5. ON THE BREEDING OF A WEST-INDIAN TORTOISE IN THIS COUNTRY. BY WILLIAM WILLIAMS (OF TREGULLOW).

A female Land-Tortoise, brought from the West Indies and given to Mrs. Williams's mother upwards of fifty years ago, was then about the size of a watch. It has now been in the garden at Tregullow about thirty-two years. Four years ago another Tortoise was obtained, which turned out to be a male; they were allowed to roam in the garden at their will. In 1860 some eggs were found, but, from insufficient heat, they were not hatched.

About the 25th of July last, the gardener, on passing a south border, observed the female Tortoise making a pit with her hind legs in a very peculiar manner. On watching her, he found she had made a hole some four inches deep, quite flat at the bottom. On returning, in about five minutes, he found she had deposited six eggs, and was in the act of covering them with earth. He immediately removed them, in a flowerpot-stand about two inches deep, filled with white sand, to a pine-pit, and placed them on a tan-bed. On the 19th of October last he observed two of the eggs had been hatched; and on looking around he found, much to his astonishment, two young live Tortoises. The eggs were about the size of those of a pigeon, and much the same in appearance.

The young ones are kept in a wooden box (in a pine-pit) with some earth and moss, under which they nestle. They are fond of lettuces and strawberries, but do not eat much. They appear quite well and lively, moving about briskly; they are now a little larger than half-crowns.

The eggs were not disturbed while in the pine-pit, the temperature of which during the time they were there was from  $85^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$  by day, and from  $65^{\circ}$  to  $70^{\circ}$  by night.

The female measures 12 inches long, by  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide over the back; the male 8 inches long, by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide over the back.





Williams, William. 1862. "5. On the Breeding of a West-Indian Tortoise in this Country." *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* 1862, 266–266.  
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